

Table 50

**GOVERNMENTAL AND INSTITUTIONAL LAND USES  
IN WAUKESHA COUNTY: 1963, 1970, 1980, AND 1990**

Year	Acres	Change from Preceding Year	
		Acres	Percent
1963	2,559	--	--
1970	3,609	1,050	41.0
1980	4,038	429	11.9
1990	4,215	177	4.4

NOTE: Includes related off-street parking areas of more than 10 spaces.

Source: SEWRPC.

the total prime farmland acreage taken out of production, 9,200 acres, or 33 percent, were located within planned urban service areas. The remainder, 18,700 acres, or 67 percent, was located outside planned urban service areas. Of that amount, 16,345 acres, or 87 percent of the lost prime agricultural land, was located in the unincorporated areas of the County and their loss may generally be attributed to urban sprawl (see Table 54).

The agricultural land base of the County, including, in particular, the County's prime agricultural lands, has been significantly depleted over the past three decades. The County development planning program provided an opportunity to carefully reexamine problems and issues attendant to the maintenance of the County's agricultural base. Importantly, the planning program provided an opportunity to reassess farmland objectives and standards. The results of that reassessment are described in Chapter IX of this report.

#### EXTRACTIVE LAND USE

As indicated in Table 55, in 1990 extractive land use in the County totaled about 3,400 acres, or about 1 percent of the total area of the County. This area consists primarily of lands devoted to the extraction of sand, gravel, and stone but also includes lands formerly used for such purposes and which lay idle in 1990. Areas devoted to extractive uses are scattered throughout the County, but the largest concentration is in and around the Villages of Lannon and Sussex.

Over the past approximately three decades, the area of the County devoted to extractive use increased by about 42 percent, from about 2,400 acres in 1963 to the 1990 level of 3,400 acres. Much of the additional extractive use during this time occurred in the form of the expansion of sites already used for extractive purposes in 1963 (see Map 49).

In addition to the Waukesha County extractive land use data collated from the Commission's 1990 land use inventory, information concerning existing ownership of lands utilized for mining or extractive operations, as well as adjacent lands with the potential for future commercially viable mining operations in the County, was provided to the Commission by the Aggregate Producers of Waukesha County. It should be noted that the information provided by the Aggregate Producers does not constitute a complete inventory of mineral resources in Waukesha County. An inventory of this type would involve the conduct of detailed studies concerning the economic viability of the potential extraction of nonmetallic mineral deposits in all areas of the County, given forecasts of the need or market demand for resource products of potential mining operations.

As shown on Map 50, about 7,220 acres of land, or about 11.3 square miles, comprising about 1.9 percent of the total area of Waukesha County, are currently owned or leased by aggregate producers for mining activities. In addition, about 1,820 acres, or about 2.8 square miles, of land adjacent to such existing operations, comprising about 0.5 percent of the total area of the County, were identified by the aggregate producers as having potential for future mining activity.

#### SUMMARY

This chapter has presented the results of an inventory and analysis of existing and historic land use in Waukesha County in support of the preparation of a development plan for Waukesha County. The most important findings of this inventory and analysis are summarized below:

1. The urban area of Waukesha County, as measured by the Regional Planning Commission urban growth analysis, increased very gradually, from about two square miles in 1900 to about 18 square miles in 1950.<sup>6</sup> The pace of

<sup>6</sup>See Footnote 1.